GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3739
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2002
IRREGULARITIES IN GRANTING IMPORT LICENCES TO PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news item captioned `CBI unearths DGCI-Pharma Cos nexus` appearing in the Pioneer dated January 17, 2002, wherein the irregularities have been reported to be detected by CBI in the issuance of import licences to the pharmaceutical companies;

(b) if so, the fact of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the number of persons and officers nabbed in this connection?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c): CBI report referred to in the news item has detailed the results of the CBI raid on the residences and office of Dr. P. Dasgupta during April, 2000 when he was Officers on Special Duty (OSD), having been transferred from the post of DCG (I) during 1999This gives details with regard to the acquisition of property in Gurgaon and enjoying hospitality in the form of air tickets during some of his foreign tours by Dr. Dasgupta. The CBI had not examined the nature and details of irregularities committed by him in the issue of import licences to pharmaceutical companies. CBI did not make any arrests in this case.They have only filed charge sheets for prosecution of Dr. Dasgupta and some officials representing the drug companies, under the Prevention of Corruption Act.Dr. Dasgupta has since retired from service on 31st December, 2001.